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ABSTRACT

This report on the 1989-93 long range plan for the Alabama Public Library Service (APLS) begins by providing lists of the members of the Alabama Public Library Service Executive Board and Alabama Advisory Council on Public Libraries; a list of APLS management staff; background information on APLS and the purpose of this program; an overview of the demographics of the Alabama library public, including changes in selected population characteristics; and the results of needs assessments of special population groups, i.e., the disadvantaged, the handicapped, the elderly, minorities, the institutionalized, and limited English-speaking persons. The APLS mission statement, goals, and objectives, are then presented together with tasks that will contribute toward the fulfillment of each objective. Appended materials include maps showing multi-county and single county library systems, counties without countywide library service, and independent libraries. Also appended are one graph, five tables, and eight additional maps depicting the results of statistical analyses of demographic data for the state. (EW)

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THE ALABAMA LONG RANGE PROGRAM FOR LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT 1989-1993

Prepared by

THE ALABAMA PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE

September, 1988

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Library Services and Construction Act

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PREFACE

A guidebook to take Alabama libraries to 1993, the Long Range Plan 1989-1993 is an evolutionary document that will begin to grow and change the instant of publication. Through development of the plan, the APLS staff is listening to its Alabama constituency in order to mold its vision of library service through responsive achievement-oriented goals and objectives.

WAIVER

APLS reserves the right to waive any sections of this plan except those sections required by federal and state law and regulations.

APLS MANAGEMENT STAFF

Director	Blane K. Dessy
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Head, Library Operations	Alice Stephens
Head, Regional Library for Blind and Physically Handicapped	Fara L. Zaleski
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INTRODUCTION

The Alabama Public Library Service, the State Library Agency, is empowered by statute (Code of Alabama, 1975, Section 41-8-1 et seq.) to aid and advise all legally established public libraries as well as to assist communities in the state which may propose to establish public libraries, to assist in the improvement and/or expansion of all already-established public libraries, and to assist local governments in combining to establish joint units of library service. In order to carry out these duties, the agency is empowered to receive and administer funds, books, or other property and may use necessary means and methods including traveling libraries and book loans to libraries, other community organizations, or other public agencies and institutions. The state agency is to obtain annual reports from all free public libraries in the state showing their conditions, growth, and development.

Since 1975, physical quarters for the agency have grown from 5,000 square feet in the basement of the State Administrative Building to its modern 72,500 square foot building in suburban Montgomery. The agency has a staff of 66 including 22 professionals.

The Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (BPH) is a barrier-free library designed for the use of the blind and physically handicapped and has been a division of the state agency since 1977.

Since 1973, the state legislature has appropriated funds for direct financial aid to county units as an item of the budget of the Alabama Public Library Service. There are now over 200 public libraries in the state, including 16 single and multicounty library systems, which participate in the state aid programs.

In addition, the agency is responsible for receiving and administering federal funds for libraries provided by the Library Services and Construction Act. In accordance with the intent of the state law and the provisions of LSCA, state and federal funds are used to encourage maximum benefit in library service for all the citizens of Alabama.

Among the other agency services are: reference, interlibrary loan, circulation of 16mm films and library-related videocassettes, database searching, and COPIC (Contents of Periodical Index Copying). To provide these services the agency collection has experienced a major expansion in holdings over the past 11 years:

Holdings	1977	1988
books	40,635	125,447 volumes
periodicals	276	1,507 titles
film	473	4,410 copies
videocassettes	0	6 titles

In 1984, APLS was designated a selective depository library for federal documents. The depository materials are making significant contributions to the ability of the APLS staff to meet the demand for quality reference and interlibrary loan services which has more than quadrupled since 1975.

Automation at APLS began in 1976 when the agency joined SOLINET and began the development of ALICAT (Alabama Interlibrary Catalog). First published in 1978, the statewide union catalog began with the holdings of nine libraries. There are now over 90 public, junior college, university and special libraries contributing bibliographic records to ALICAT. The agency shares an automated circulation system with the Montgomery City-County Public Library, the Autauga-Prattville Public Library, and the Houston-Love Memorial Library, Dothan. A unique automation system developed for the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped in the late '70s is a model of efficiency and demonstrates the agency's concern for special services. The agency has also become a subscriber to the American Library Association Network (ALANET), a communications and database network for the national library community.

Working with the Advisory Council and the APLS Executive Board, agency leadership has extended library service in all areas of Alabama. Since 1979, seven counties have developed library systems. Three shared automation systems are interconnecting libraries of all sizes and types to encourage sharing of resources. The quality of library service has been improved through policies that have resulted in the hiring of 25 new MLS librarians in city, county and regional libraries.

After a period of phenomenal growth, public libraries in Alabama and the Alabama Public Library Service are continuing their determination to extend services to 39,350 unserved residents and improve services provided to the many residents who have access to libraries that offer less than adequate service.

PURPOSE

The purpose in presenting this Long Range Program 1989-1993 is twofold. In addition to meeting the requirements of the Library Services and Construction Act, the Alabama Public Library Service is continuing its effort to assess, prioritize, and communicate library needs to librarians, officials, and the public in order to provide adequate library service to the citizens of Alabama.

The program has been reviewed and revised in accordance with the needs of Alabama for assistance under the Act. It has been developed with the assistance of the Advisory Council and in consultation with the U.S. Department of Education. It has also been reviewed and adopted by the Executive Board of the Alabama Public Library Service.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Alabama Public Libraries

In 1988, Alabama's approximately 3,990,221 residents (1984 population projections) are being served by 201 public libraries in 67 counties. Of these libraries, 77 are members of multicounty regional units, 88 are members of countywide service areas, and 36 are independent municipal libraries. (Appendix A-1 through A-4)

These public libraries provide direct access to library service to 99% of the state's population. Nonetheless, there are still 39,350 residents throughout Alabama who do not have direct access to any public library service. Although this figure has decreased from 176,680 unserved in 1979, most residents who have since received some services still do not have access to adequate services.

The average local per capita support for public libraries has increased from $3.64 per capita in 1979 to $5.82 per capita in 1986. An almost 60% increase, this figure is still well below the $9 to $12 per capita indicator of adequacy established over ten years ago in the National Inventory of Library Needs.

Print resources in public libraries have increased from 4,706,979 to 6,481,347 volumes. With the current status of 1.6 volumes per capita, Alabama has not yet reached the minimum books per capita standard suggested by the Joint Committee on Public Library Standards in Standards for Public Library Service in Alabama, 1988.

The Alabama Library Public

In the decade between the 1970 and the 1980 censuses, the population of Alabama increased 13.1%, while the state slipped from 21st to 22nd in total population among the 50 states. The growth rate, according to projections, will be slightly less during this decade, but the population is expected to be 4,411,271 by 1993. With an urban growth rate of almost 16%, the population is now 60% urban and 40% rural. The trend toward greater urbanization is expected to continue.

With a civilian labor force of 1,713,000, the unemployment rate has declined from over 14% to 10.5% in 1986. Of those employed, 46.4% are white collar workers, 37.8% are blue collar workers, 13% are service workers, and 2.7% are farm workers. Of the total population 52.1% are women who are 43% of the work force. Minorities comprise 26% of the population and 23% of the work force.

During the decade there were dramatic changes in the educational levels of Alabamians. Of the population over 25 years of age only 26% had completed four years of high school in 1970. By comparison the 1980 census found that 56.5% of those over 25 years of age were high school graduates. The percentage of those completing four years or more of college increased from 8% to 12.2%.

Currently over 45% of the population is in the 15-44 age group. The most frequent public library users traditionally fall within this age group. In population projections to 1993, the percentage of the population under age 15 shows a decrease to 22.1% while the percentage of those over 65 will increase to 13.1%. The population in the 15-64 age bracket will remain approximately the same. No major shifts in other population characteristics are projected at this time. (see Appendix A-5)

CHANGES IN SELECTED POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS 1970-1980

Total Population:	1970	1980	
	3,444,354	3,893,888	+13.1%
Rank Among the 50 States:	**1970**	**1980**	
	21	22	-1.0%
Population by Sex:	**1970**	**1980**	
Female:	52.1%	51.9%	-0.2%
Male:	47.9%	48.1%	+0.2%
Population by Area of Residence:	**1970**	**1980**	
Rural:	39.2%	40%	+0.8%
Urban:	60.8%	60%	-0.8%
Population by Race:	**1970**	**1980**	
Nonwhite:	24%	26.2%	+2.2%
White:	76%	73.8%	-2.2%
Population by Age:	**1970**	**1980**	
Under 15:	26.8%	24.1%	-2.7%
15-44:	41.8%	45.4%	+3.6%
45-64:	21%	19.2%	-1.8%
65+:	10.4%	11.3%	+0.9%

Handicapped

Currently, the Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped serves 4,500 patrons through the Regional Library and its five subregional libraries which are located in Anniston, Dothan, Huntsville, Talledega, and Tuscaloosa. Recreational reading and reference services are available to those qualifying persons who are either visually impaired, hearing impaired, physically impaired, or dyslexic.

The circulation has grown from 18,607 titles in 1979 to 149,313 titles in FY87. Other participating libraries borrowed 925 titles from the collection. The number of volunteers has increased from 15 to 200, with a 90% increase in production hours over the ten year span. These volunteers have produced 246 in-house recorded titles of Alabama or Southern interests.

Through mailing packets and exhibit booths, related medical and educational offices are being made aware of our services. The cooperative effort between the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped and the Alabama Public Library Service is enabling those qualified persons to receive the best in library services.

Disadvantaged

Census statistics indicate that there are 154,131 families in Alabama with incomes below the poverty level. The total number of individuals with income below the poverty level is 719,059, or 18.9% of the population. Of the economically disadvantaged, 52% are black, 42% white, and the remainder are other minorities. Over half (52%) live in urban areas, but there are high rural concentrations in 11 counties where over 20% of the families have incomes falling below the poverty level (see Appendix A-6 through A-10).

An additional fourteen counties have populations in which over 11% of the population over age 25 has less than five years of elementary school (see Appendix A-11 and A-12).

Minorities

Minorities other than black account for less than 1% of the population in Alabama. As classified by the 1980 census, there are 7,583 American Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts, 9,734 Asians and Pacific Islanders, and 7,615 other.

The black population in 1980 represented 25% of the total Alabama population. With 70% of the black population living in urban areas, 46% are concentrated in the state's four largest cities. There are ten primarily rural counties that have black populations of over 50% (see Appendix A-13 and A-14).

There are also five Alabama counties with Native American populations over 500 persons (see Appendix A-15).

Institutionalized

There are 15,597 individuals housed in state-supported mental, correctional, and other institutions. Through LSCA and local public libraries, APLS has developed and supported library programs in six state hospitals and correctional facilities during the past five years. These programs are serving 5,953 of those individuals housed in institutions. Efforts will continue in the next five years to extend service to those as yet unserved and to improve service to meet the needs of all the institutionalized in Alabama (see Appendix A-16).

Elderly

The population of those Alabamians over 65 has reached almost 500,000. There are 18,702 Alabama residents in homes for the aged. As a group, they are not concentrated in specific areas as the highest percentage of the population in any county is only 16.7% and the lowest 7.2%. The county with the most individuals in this age group is Jefferson County with 81,072 (12.1% of the county residents). In ten counties, those over 65 are in excess of 15% of the population (see Appendix A-17 and A-18).

Limited English-Speaking

In 1979, a consortium project for the "Americanization of the Indo-Chinese" identified seven counties with settlements of Indo-Chinese with limited English-speaking ability. A small German-speaking community was identified in the Dothan area as a result of the same project.

According to the 1980 census, there are 3,633 Alabama residents who either speak English poorly or not at all. Concentrated in large urban areas, 50% are in Mobile and Birmingham. The total group is .09% of the state's population. Tabulations of language other than English spoken in the homes indicate that of those currently needing help with English, 32% speak Spanish, 22% Asian languages, 16% French, 15% German, 3% Italian, 1% each Polish and Philippine, and the remainder unspecified languages.

A center for foreign language materials was established at the Huntsville-Madison Public County Library in 1985. The Huntsville library makes available foreign language reading lists, bibliographies, and materials to all libraries in Alabama. Through the Huntsville experience the state is attempting to identify the specific information and materials needed by those residents with limited English-speaking ability (see Appendix A-19).

Interlibrary Cooperation and Resource Sharing

The environment for cooperation is well established in Alabama. Of the 201 public libraries, 62 college and university libraries, and the public school libraries in 204 school districts, 91 have contributed almost four million holdings records to the microfiche Alabama Interlibrary Catalog

(ALICAT). Thirty Alabama libraries belong to the Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET), 64 participate in multitype systems, and 25 share automated systems. The public libraries in 54 of the 67 counties are organized into county library programs.

The Alabama Library Exchange (ALEX) began operation in 1981. Its membership includes 17 public libraries, eight college and university libraries, six school districts with 80 libraries, and ten special libraries.

An Evaluation of Two Pilot Multitype Interlibrary Cooperation Projects in Alabama, by F. William Summers and Daniel D. Barron, was completed in March 1984. The evaluation of the Alabama Library Exchange (ALEX) and the now defunct Pioneer Alabama Library System (PALS) recommended the initiation of another project in another area of the state, a statewide attitude survey, and a broad and systematic educational program for librarians and trustees.

In Southeast Alabama, 41 libraries joined together to develop the Southeast Alabama Multitype System, Inc. (SAMS). With a governance structure and steering committee in place, the new multitype began operation in 1987 (see Appendix A-20).

The Library Management Network, which grew from the ALEX membership, is an organization that provides a shared computer system to its membership. Currently there are 16 members: ten public libraries, one university, two junior colleges, two public school libraries, and ALEX. Two other automated systems, one in Birmingham with ten public libraries and three school libraries, and another in Montgomery with three public libraries and APLS, were upgraded in 1986 to allow other libraries to share the computer systems.

In October 1985, RMG Consultants, Inc., completed Plans and Recommendations for an Alabama Library Network. This study, supported by LSCA and state funds, was a cooperative effort of the Alabama Public Library Service and the Network of Alabama Academic Libraries (NAAL). The primary recommendations built on and expanded the cooperative activities already in place in Alabama.

Interlibrary loan in Alabama entered a new era on October 1, 1986. Agreements reached between APLS and NAAL provided equitable reimbursement based on net lending to all participating public and academic libraries in Alabama. As a result, both ALICAT and an Alabama Union of Serials (AULS) entered a period of rapid expansion to provide needed access to more of the state's total library and information resources, estimated by RMG Consultants, Inc. to be over 17 million volumes.

Other cooperative projects in Alabama include "The Coalition for the Preservation of Alabama Newspapers" and the "Alabama Union List of Major Microform Collections". When completed, both projects will provide holdings lists of major resources in all types of Alabama libraries. The Alabama Union List of Serials (AULS), another Alabama Library Exchange project, contains the holdings of 85 libraries.

Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Alabama Public Library Service to assure excellent library and information resources and services for all the people of Alabama.

GOAL I

Ensure adequate library and information resources and services to meet the needs of the people of Alabama.

Objective 1.1

Satisfy the library needs of those individuals presently receiving public library services, identify and reach those individuals who are not presently using library services available to them, and extend library services to those individuals presently unserved. (1989 ongoing)

Task 1.1.1

Disseminate and implement Standards for Public Library Service in Alabama to use as a valid measure of the effectiveness of library resources and services. (1989-1993)

Task 1.1.2

Revise the annual statistical report to measure the progress of public libraries against the Standards for Public Library Service in Alabama. (1989-1990)

Task 1.1.3

Consult with library trustees and library staffs in all areas of library administration and services as needed. (1989 ongoing)

Task 1.1.4

Visit every public library and library system at least once a year. (1989 ongoing)

Objective 1.2

Evaluate APLS publications to facilitate better exchange of information between the state library agency and the state's public libraries. (1989 ongoing)

Task 1.2.1

Provide written communication on a timely basis to alert librarians and trustees to important developments on the state and federal levels. (1989 ongoing)

Task 1.2.2

Use quarterly administrators' meetings as a continuing education opportunity involving library directors, agency personnel, and experts in a variety of fields of expertise pertinent to library service.
(1989 ongoing)

Task 1.2.3

Assist public libraries in developing public relations programs as specified in the Standards for Public Library Service in Alabama, 1988.
(1989 ongoing)

Task 1.2.4

Publish and disseminate annual statistical report and library directory.
(1989 ongoing)

Objective 1.3

Develop and offer programs of continuing education to public librarians, trustees, and state library personnel to assure increasingly efficient and effective library services.
(1989 ongoing)

Task 1.3.1

Administer the annual program of awarding scholarships for full-time and part-time study leading to a graduate degree in library science from a school whose program is accredited by the American Library Association.
(1989 ongoing)

Task 1.3.2

Provide library continuing education in cooperation with other professional organizations and related agencies.
(1989 ongoing)

Task 1.3.3

Provide continuing education scholarships for library trustees and staff.
(1989 ongoing)

Objective 1.4

Provide for the best possible use of state and federal funds toward the improvement and expansion of library services and resources available to the people of Alabama by annual review of policies and priorities.
(1989 ongoing)

Task 1.4.1

Distribute federal funds through subgrants to eligible libraries within the guidelines of the Library Services and Construction Act, in accordance with the state priorities for public library development. (1989 ongoing)

Task 1.4.2

Allocate state aid funds in accordance with the Rules and Regulations for State Aid to Public Libraries. (1989 ongoing)

Task 1.4.3

Fund the work of the Alabama Advisory Council for Libraries and its subcommittees, as well as other advisory task forces. (1989 ongoing)

Task 1.4.4

Secure, in cooperation with other agencies and organizations, additional funds from the State Legislature to increase state aid to public libraries. (1989 ongoing)

Task 1.4.5

In cooperation with the White House Conference on Library and Information Service Task Force support the second White House Conference by continued support of the Alabama WHCLIST delegation and the statewide planning committee. (1989 ongoing)

Objective 1.5

Cooperate with the Alabama Library Association and other interested organizations to further intellectual freedom in Alabama. (1989 ongoing)

Task 1.5.1

Provide professional guidance in the development of public library policies that address intellectual freedom. (1989 ongoing)

Objective 1.6

Administer the Alabama Long Range Program for Library Development. (1989-1993)

Task 1.6.1

Work with other state level agencies with library responsibilities to develop effective cooperative activities to strengthen the library and information resources available to the people of Alabama. (1989 ongoing)

Objective 1.7

Obtain revisions of the Code of Alabama which are necessary to provide a sound legal and financial base for the improvement of library services in Alabama. (1990-1991)

Objective 1.8

Improve the collections and services of the Alabama Public Library Service to strengthen library services in Alabama. (1989 ongoing)

Task 1.8.1

Collect materials of sufficient scope and depth to provide reference and resource services, including information in formats other than print, to public libraries, other types of libraries, and state government officials and employees. (1989 ongoing)

Task 1.8.2

Collect materials in greater depth and breadth in Alabamiana, the humanities, library science, public administration, social sciences, and government documents in support of the library and information activities throughout the state. (1989 ongoing)

Task 1.8.3

Strive to meet Standards for Library Functions at the State level. (1989 ongoing)

Task 1.8.4

Provide services supplementing the immediate capabilities of libraries in Alabama, such as interlibrary loan through APLS membership in SOLINET and OCLC and database searching on bibliographic retrieval systems. (1989 ongoing)

Task 1.8.5

Increase statewide awareness of the resources available at APLS through publication of subject bibliographies, film lists, and the Acquisitions List, as well as through articles in Cottonboll. (1989 ongoing)

Objective 1.9

Develop public library service in areas of the state without public library service. (1989 ongoing)

Task 1.9.1

Continue the development of countywide library service for the effective delivery of library services to rural patrons. (1989 ongoing)

GOAL II

To provide, from APLS, personalized and efficient library service for the blind, visually impaired, physically handicapped, deaf and non-speaking persons in the State of Alabama in the formats best suited to their needs.

Objective 2.1

Assure that APLS Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped personnel needs are adequately assessed and addressed and that division staff are well-trained and motivated.

Task 2.1.1

Fill vacant positions as expeditiously as possible. (ongoing)

Task 2.1.2

Add additional staff as the division's workload increases; i.e., warehouse laborer, clerical assistant, etc. (1989)

Task 2.1.3

Investigate the need for adding a Library Consultant classification to the staff. (1989)

Task 2.1.4

Develop continuing education program for all staff; i.e., telephone skills, basic management skills, communication skills, social interaction skills. (1989)

Task 2.1.5

Arrange for key staff members to attend the orientation and training sessions at the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped in Washington, D.C. (ongoing)

Task 2.1.6

Orient new Reader Advisors as to how each unit functions within the division, by allowing short-term work time in each area. (ongoing)

Objective 2.2

Improve service and relations with eligible patrons.

Task 2.2.1

Establish a limited browsing collection that will be readily accessible for walk-in patrons. (1989)

Task 2.2.2

Produce all mailouts (overdues, form letters, WhAT'S LINE, etc.) in 14 point font print. (1989)

Task 2.2.3

Respond promptly to patron inquiries by either phone or mail. (ongoing)

Task 2.2.4

Support the Consumer Advisory Committee in its broad range goals. (ongoing)

Task 2.2.5

Encourage patron input through the Readership Survey. (biannually)

Task 2.2.6

Encourage young readers' participation with the statewide Summer Reading Program, either at local level or through the Regional Library. (ongoing)

Task 2.2.7

Continue to provide reference information and referral services concerning:

a) Basic reference needs
b) Aids and appliances information
c) Data base searches
d) Education resources (e.g., Recordings for the Blind)
e) Subject bibliographies (ongoing)

Task 2.2.8

Update and monitor existing deposit collections with the aid of subregional librarians and other interested public libraries. (1989)

Task 2.2.9

Establish new, strategic deposit collections to strengthen local level usage of materials. (1990-1992)

Task 2.2.10

Work with Radio Reading Service to develop an informative program. (1989)

Objective 2.3

Promote interagency cooperation among non-profit organizations, government agencies, health care institutions, and all providers of service for visually and physically disabled persons.

Tasks 2.3.1

Pursue cooperative agreements with appropriate state agencies:

a) Department of Rehabilitation
b) Department of Education/Special Education (1989)

Task 2.3.2

Develop appropriate information packet mailings to inform various related organizations and agencies of our services; i.e., Vocational Rehabilitation teachers, special education coordinators. (1989)

Objective 2.4

Expand the circulation, inventory, and statistical elements of the Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

Task 2.4.1

Participate in APLS Automation Committee to designate existing Honeywell programs that need to be updated in meeting needs of the patrons and reader advisors. (ongoing)

Task 2.4.2

Conduct a physical inventory of all recorded and braille titles for balancing computerized circulation system. (1989)

Task 2.4.3

Monitor warehouse and Audio Duplication services for locating, removing and mending snag titles to insure speedy and accurate inventory records. (ongoing)

Task 2.4.4

Duplicate as needed titles requested by reader advisors and subregional librarians. (ongoing)

Task 2.4.5

Use NLS/NET programs as they become available in providing important information. (ongoing)

Task 2.4.6

Maintain a 24 hour turnaround time between receiving and sending recorded materials. (ongoing)

Objective 2.5

Supplement NLS circulating collection by developing appropriate special collection.

Task 2.5.1

Weed and update the BPH nonfiction standard print collection related to various handicaps for use by teachers, parents, students, etc. (1989)

Task 2.5.2

Establish a BPH large print fiction collection of high interest/popular classics which will fill a need for reluctant, borderline patrons. (1990)

Task 2.5.3

Establish a BPH large print nonfiction collection of autobiographies and biographies concerning persons with various handicaps. (1990)

Task 2.5.4

Weed the APLS large print collection housed in BPH of titles not belonging to collections established in tasks 5.2 and 5.3. (1989)

Task 2.5.5

Maintain a representative display of braille magazines both free and for subscriptions. (ongoing)

Task 2.5.6

Maintain for reference purposes related standard print periodicals for use by students, teachers, parents, etc. (ongoing)

Task 2.5.7

Maintain Reader's Digest collection in braille format for historical/reference purposes. (ongoing)

Objective 2.6

Improve physical facility as patron needs and office staff grow.

Task 2.6.1

Install compact shelving in warehouse to provide additional space for new titles. (1989)

Task 2.6.2

Rearrange portable walls and furniture to make staff and facility more accessible to visitors. (1989)

Task 2.6.3

Establish routine maintenance of microfiche readers, display equipment, carpet, furniture, etc. (ongoing)

Objective 2.7

Provide efficient machine lending services.

Task 2.7.1

Reduce the backlog of broken machines by repairing for use or returning to NLS the inoperable machines. (1989)

Task 2.7.2

Balance in-house inventory with NLS computer inventory. (1990)

Task 2.7.3

Provide subregional libraries with new CBMs, TBMs, needles, headphones, etc. when possible. (ongoing)

Task 2.7.4

Inform our patrons of accessories available: E-1, remote control, breath switch, amplifier, headphone, etc. (ongoing)

Task 2.7.5

Maintain a 48 hour turnaround time between receiving an order and sending replacement equipment. (ongoing)

Objective 2.8

Implement the positive growth of library service at the subregional library level.

Task 2.8.1

Investigate expansion of subregional system into each Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA). (1991)

Task 2.8.2

Investigate funding of subregionals through state legislative sources. (1990)

Task 2.8.3

Encourage subregional librarians to enroll in related library science courses. (ongoing)

Task 2.8.4

Provide subregionals with NLS materials and appropriate reports as needed.

(ongoing)

Task 2.8.5

Make annual site visits to subregional libraries per NLS standards. (ongoing)

Task 2.8.6

Continue to hold quarterly subregional business meetings. (ongoing)

Task 2.8.7

Update the Handbook for Subregional Libraries in Alabama. (1990)

Task 2.8.8

Investigate methods of electronic communications between Regional and subregionals. (1990)

Task 2.8.9

Recognize and support the unique programming of each subregional with its clientele. (ongoing)

Task 2.8.10

Investigate automation of subregionals using the NLS/BPH READS program. (1989)

Objective 2.9

Involve volunteers and staff members in outreach programs as a part of public education.

Task 2.9.1

Conduct an annual volunteer meeting of statewide participation. (1989)

Task 2.9.2

Investigate volunteer training needs through a survey and/or ad hoc committee. (1989)

Task 2.9.3

Plan volunteer workshops through NLS cooperation; i.e., Narrator Workshop led by Bill West. (1990)

Task 2.9.4

Include volunteers and staff when attending sign language classes, postings, health fairs, etc. (1989)

Task 2.9.5

Encourage patron and association visits to the Regional Library. (1989)

GOAL III

Strengthen major urban resource libraries to enable these libraries to better serve the individual users and other libraries in the areas where they are located. (1989 ongoing)

GOAL IV

Promote the development of adequate public library facilities through new construction or renovation of existing facilities. (1989 ongoing)

Objective 4.1

Provide assistance for compliance with the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-112) to insure statewide compliance of libraries with the regulations. (1989 ongoing)

Objective 4.2

Review and revise, as necessary, the state regulations adopted for the administration of LSCA Title II, Library Construction. (1989 ongoing)

Objective 4.3

Conduct a statewide survey of library facilities to assist in statewide planning for determining adequacy of facilities as specified in Standards for Public Library Service in Alabama. (1989)

Objective 4.4

Secure additional appropriations from the state legislature for public library construction. (1990 ongoing)

GOAL V

Support, where appropriate, multitype cooperative library services to provide improved information and services through resource sharing.
(1989 ongoing)

Objective 5.1

Assist in the implementation of multitype library systems and assist, as needed, with Title III funds the maintenance of such systems until permanent support is developed. (1989 ongoing)

Task 5.1.1

Provide assistance and support for the development of proposals for implementing multitype systems by assuring availability of state agency staff and resources to proposal writers. (1989 ongoing)

Task 5.1.2

Foster cooperation among autonomous library and media entities such as academic libraries, school media centers, special libraries, and public libraries. (1989 ongoing)

Task 5.1.3

Investigate, with the LSCA Advisory Council and the current multitype systems, all possible sources of funding and funding structures for multitype systems and present recommendations to the Advisory Council and the Executive Board for the funding structures and sources most feasible for adoption. (1989)

GOAL VI

Utilize applicable technological advances to enhance state agency and public library services and to promote statewide resource sharing.
(1989 ongoing)

Objective 6.1

Implement where practical the recommendations of the RMG study, Plans and Recommendations for an Alabama Library Network. (1989 ongoing)

Task 6.1.1

Safeguard resource sharing among Alabama libraries by protecting access to and use of machine-readable bibliographic records. (1989 ongoing)

Task 6.1.2

Establish and expand compatible automated systems by providing support for new membership. (1989 ongoing)

Task 6.1.3

Investigate acquiring capability to communicate electronically and to transmit data between APLS office automated system and local library office automation systems. (1989)

Objective 6.2

Support and expand statewide resource sharing projects such as: ALICAT, AULS, and the net lending programs. (1989 ongoing)

Task 6.2.1

Encourage the expansion of and coordinate the production and distribution of the Alabama Interlibrary Catalog (ALICAT), the COM statewide union catalog, to facilitate the identification of more resources and to promote more effective sharing of resources. (1989 ongoing)

Task 6.2.2

Fund net-lending programs between NAAL members and public libraries in Alabama and among public libraries in Alabama. (1989 ongoing)

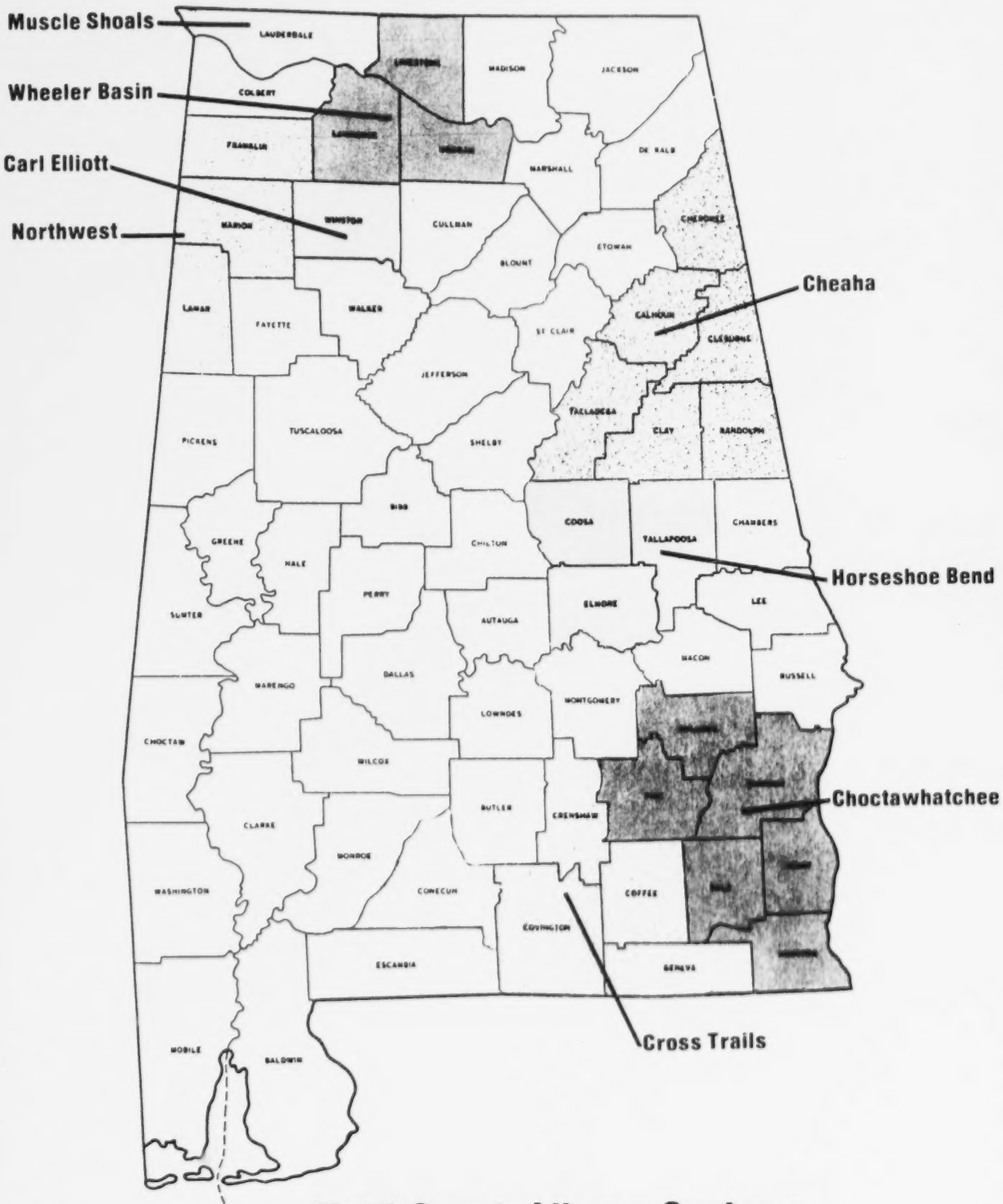
Objective 6.3

Investigate methods of efficiently delivering resources to requesting libraries. (1989)

Task 6.3.1

Implement resource sharing through telefacsimile transmission. (1990)

ALABAMA



Multi-County Library Systems

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Countywide Library Service

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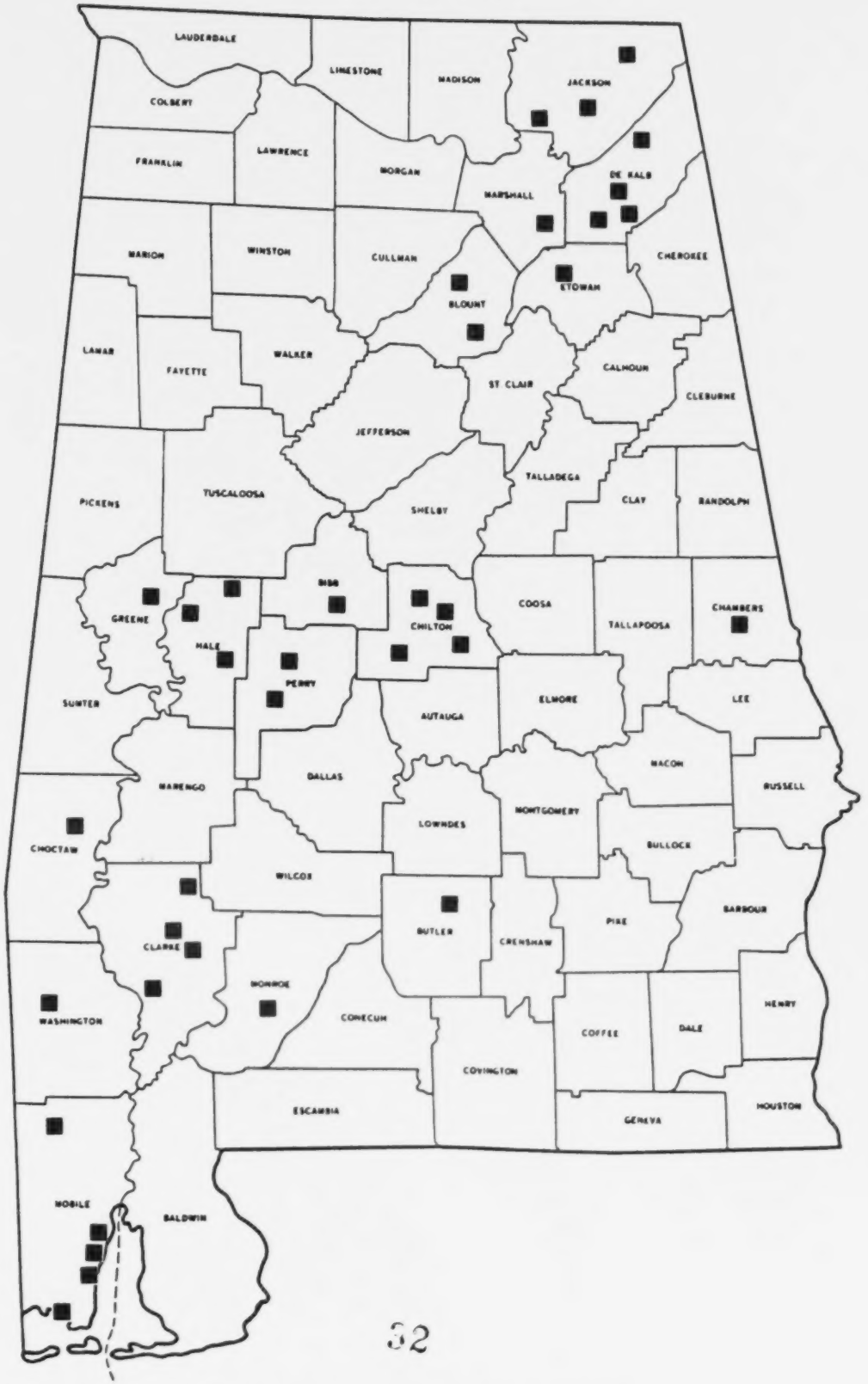
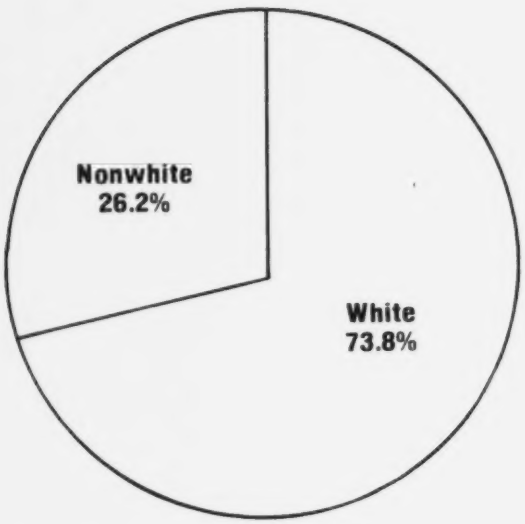
Counties Without Countywide Library Service

ALABAMA



Independent Libraries

Population By Selected Characteristics
Alabama 1980



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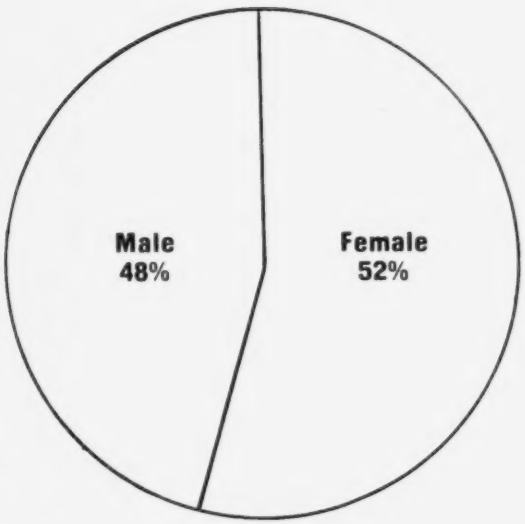

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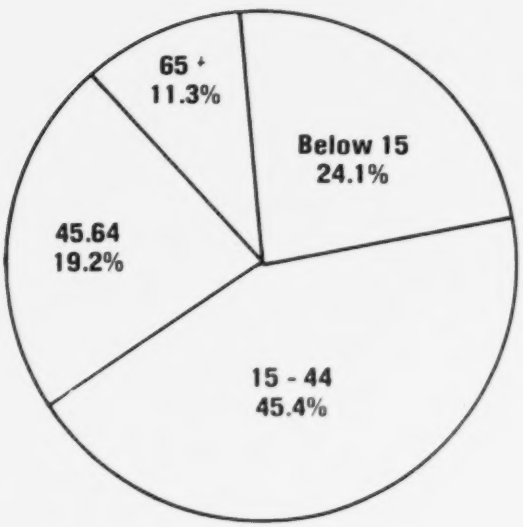

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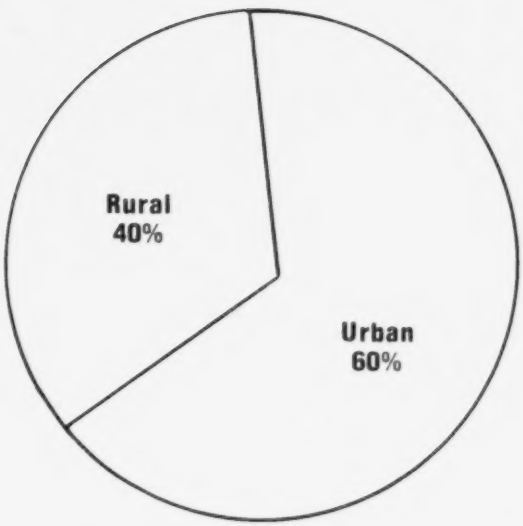

RESIDENCE

Disadvantaged Population in Alabama

Families with income less than $5,000 per year.

Total: 119,065
White: 63,425
Non-White: 55,640

Unrelated individuals with income of less than $5,000 per year.

Total: 207,147
White: 138,039
Non-White: 69,108

Families receiving public assistance

Total: 107,464
White: 50,667
Non-White: 56,797

Unrelated individuals receiving public assistance

Total: 40,512
White: 23,128
Non-White: 17,384

Unemployed persons 16 years and older

Total: 122,815
Males: 63,624
Females: 59,191

Alabama population with: Income below poverty level: 719,765
Income below 125% of poverty level: 960,835

Poverty level varies by age and size of family; the 1980 census does not distinguish between farm and non-farm population for this figure. The weighted poverty level average for a family of four was $7,412. 125% of this figure is $9,265.

Ranking of Counties By Poverty Status of Families in 1979

County	Ranking	Percent	Number
Lowdnes	1	36.6	1,087
Wilcox	2	36.2	1,214
Greene	3	36.1	892
Hale	4	33.0	1,257
Perry	5	32.8	1,157
Sumter	6	28.7	1,133
Bullock	7	28.4	757
Macon	8	28.3	1,615
Choctaw	9	27.5	1,198
Marengo	10	25.5	1,612
Dallas	11	25.4	3,398
Crenshaw	12	24.8	968
Barbour	13	24.4	1,579
Conecuh	14	24.3	1,002
Pickens	15	22.6	1,265
Coosa	16	20.6	651
Butler	17	20.3	1,163
Clarke	18	20.2	1,411
Pike	19	20.1	1,379
Russell	20	19.6	2,481
Lawrence	21	19.4	1,594
Washington	22	19.4	850
Monroe	23	19.3	1,097
Randolph	24	18.1	982
Henry	25	17.7	733
Bibb	26	17.5	714
Geneva	27	17.4	1,193
Clay	28	16.8	638
DeKalb	29	16.4	2,548
Escambia	30	16.4	1,611
Talladega	31	16.3	3,152
Chilton	32	15.6	1,359
Winston	33	15.6	980
Covington	34	15.5	1,624
Cullman	35	15.4	2,757
Fayette	36	15.4	830
Mobile	37	15.4	14,638
Blount	38	15.3	1,617
Cherokee	39	15.1	809
Montgomery	40	14.7	7,451
Tuscaloosa	41	14.6	4,909
Franklin	42	14.5	1,203
Lamar	43	14.3	658
Coffee	45	14.1	1,522
Dale	45	14.1	1,743
Limestone	46	14.0	1,771
Lee	47	13.9	2,460
Marshall	48	13.9	2,646
Walker	49	13.8	2,653
Cleburne	50	13.7	496
Jackson	51	13.7	1,986
Marion	52	13.7	1,200
Autauga	53	13.5	1,159
Houston	54	13.4	2,783
Tallapoosa	55	13.3	1,411
Baldwin	56	13.2	2,846
Chambers	57	13.1	1,403
Elmore	58	13.1	1,513
Etowah	59	12.9	3,743
Calhoun	60	12.6	3,939
St. Clair	61	12.6	1,440
Jefferson	62	12.0	21,857
Lauderdale	63	11.4	2,575
Colbert	64	11.0	1,718
Madison	65	10.8	5,719
Morgan	66	10.8	2,745
Shelby	67	9.9	1,778

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of the Census. Census of Population 1980. General Social and Economic Characteristics

ALABAMA

Counties Where More Than 25% of Families Have Income Below Poverty Level

Ranking of Counties By Percent of Families Receiving Public Assistance

County	Ranking	Percent	Number
Lowdnes	1	31.7	940
Greene	2	30.3	749
Wilcox	3	28.5	956
Sumter	4	25.0	990
Hale	5	22.9	872
Perry	6	22.6	796
Bullock	7	22.4	598
Macon	8	22.4	1,278
Conecuh	9	20.6	850
Pickens	10	20.6	1,154
Marengo	11	19.9	1,255
Dallas	12	19.6	2,620
Barbour	13	18.5	1,194
Choctaw	14	17.9	778
Crenshaw	15	17.6	685
Henry	16	15.9	658
Clarke	17	15.4	1,075
Pike	18	15.1	1,039
Washington	19	15.0	658
Butler	20	14.8	848
Randolph	21	14.5	786
Talladega	22	13.6	2,631
Monroe	23	13.5	768
Lawrence	24	12.9	1,062
Coosa	25	12.7	401
Geneva	26	12.6	864
Lamar	27	12.5	575
Bibb	28	12.4	506
Franklin	29	12.0	996
Russell	30	12.0	1,518
Covington	31	11.7	1,234
Fayette	32	11.7	632
Clay	33	10.8	409
Cherokee	34	10.7	573
Chambers	35	10.6	1,132
Elmore	36	10.5	1,205
Escambia	37	10.4	1,021
Tallapoosa	38	10.3	1,093
Mobile	39	10.2	9,744
Montgomery	40	10.1	5,131
Autauga	41	10.0	854
Cleburne	42	9.7	347
DeKalb	43	9.5	1,485
Chilton	44	9.2	806
Cullman	45	9.2	1,640
Tuscaloosa	46	9.2	3,090
Walker	47	9.2	1,754
Jackson	48	9.1	1,321
Coffee	49	8.9	965
Houston	50	8.9	1,845
Limestone	51	8.9	1,123
Blount	52	8.8	929
Calhoun	53	8.8	2,753
Jefferson	54	8.8	16,048
Lee	55	8.7	1,552
Marion	56	8.6	755
Winston	57	8.6	540
Etowah	58	8.2	2,370
St. Clair	59	8.2	938
Marshall	60	8.1	1,554
Lauderdale	61	8.0	1,813
Colbert	62	7.7	1,197
Baldwin	63	7.6	1,647
Morgan	64	7.5	1,904
Madison	65	7.4	3,942
Dale	66	7.0	869
Shelby	67	6.4	1,149

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of the Census. Census of Population, 1980. General Social and Economic Characteristics.

ALABAMA

Counties Where More Than 20% of Families Receive Public Assistance

Ranking of Counties by Percent of Persons 25 Years Old and Over With Less Than 5 Years of Elementary School

County	Ranking	Percent	Number
Greene	1	18.3	1,062
Lowndes	2	15.7	991
Wilcox	3	15.7	1,189
Bullock	4	15.5	912
Sumter	5	14.7	1,256
Hale	6	14.2	1,196
Barbour	7	14.0	1,973
Perry	8	13.1	1,029
Choctaw	9	12.8	1,178
Russell	10	12.1	3,242
Pike	11	11.8	1,762
Henry	12	11.7	1,055
Marengo	13	11.3	1,554
Crenshaw	14	11.0	932
Pickens	15	10.9	1,320
Conecuh	16	10.7	967
Washington	17	10.5	942
Cleburne	18	10.4	772
Covington	19	10.1	2,315
Geneva	20	9.8	1,418
Butler	21	9.7	1,223
Bibb	22	9.4	830
Dallas	23	9.4	2,711
Monroe	24	9.2	1,133
Winston	25	9.1	1,178
Coosa	26	8.7	578
Fayette	27	8.7	978
Macon	28	8.7	1,214
Randolph	29	8.7	1,031
Escambia	30	8.6	1,894
Tallapoosa	31	8.3	1,906
Limestone	32	8.2	2,135
Clarke	33	8.1	1,221
Jackson	34	8.1	2,394
Lawrence	35	8.1	1,351
Chambers	36	7.8	1,802
Coffee	37	7.7	1,746
DeKalb	38	7.4	2,364
Houston	39	7.4	3,166
Walker	40	7.4	2,976
Blount	41	7.2	1,560
Talladega	42	7.1	2,879
Lee	43	7.0	2,518
Marion	44	7.0	1,255
Tuscaloosa	45	7.0	5,158
Cherokee	46	6.8	763
Clay	47	6.7	540
Franklin	48	6.7	1,151
Lamar	49	6.6	646
Elmore	50	6.2	1,553
St. Clair	51	6.2	1,466
Chilton	52	6.1	1,094
Marshall	53	5.6	2,189
Autauga	54	5.3	924
Calhoun	55	5.3	3,463
Cullman	56	5.3	1,949
Etowah	57	5.3	3,272
Colbert	58	5.2	1,676
Dale	59	5.2	1,294
Baldwin	60	5.0	2,280
Lauderdale	61	5.0	2,319
Montgomery	62	4.8	5,289
Mobile	63	4.7	9,443
Morgan	64	4.7	2,457
Jefferson	65	4.4	17,645
Shelby	66	4.3	1,590
Madison	67	4.1	4,512

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of the Census. Census of Population, 1980. General Social and Economic Characteristics.

ALABAMA

Counties Where More Than 11% of the Population Has Less Than 5 Years Of Elementary School

Ranking of Counties by Percent of Blacks

County	Ranking	Percent	Number
Macon	1	84.2	22,579
Greene	2	78.0	8,596
Lowndes	3	75.0	9,937
Sumter	4	69.3	11,711
Wilcox	5	68.8	10,151
Bullock	6	67.6	7,160
Hale	7	62.8	9,799
Perry	8	60.1	9,017
Dallas	9	55.0	29,488
Marengo	10	53.3	13,346
Barbour	11	44.4	11,003
Choctaw	12	43.5	7,319
Monroe	13	43.0	9,742
Clarke	14	42.7	11,827
Pickens	15	41.8	8,978
Conecuh	16	41.1	6,534
Montgomery	17	39.4	77,614
Russell	18	39.4	18,656
Butler	19	38.7	8,397
Henry	20	37.9	5,799
Chambers	21	35.5	13,894
Pike	22	35.0	9,825
Coosa	23	34.7	3,950
Jefferson	24	33.3	223,759
Mobile	25	31.5	114,787
Talladega	26	30.8	22,745
Escambia	27	29.6	11,376
Washington	28	28.1	4,726
Tuscaloosa	29	27.2	37,405
Tallapoosa	30	27.0	10,451
Crenshaw	31	26.2	3,693
Lee	32	24.5	18,652
Randolph	33	24.3	4,869
Bibb	34	23.4	3,675
Autauga	35	22.4	7,225
Elmore	36	22.3	9,655
Houston	37	22.2	16,611
Madison	38	19.8	39,069
Calhoun	39	17.6	21,074
Coffee	40	17.0	6,532
Colbert	41	16.8	9,146
Lawrence	42	16.8	5,074
Clay	43	16.6	2,268
Dale	44	16.4	7,828
Geneva	45	15.7	3,802
Baldwin	46	15.3	12,048
Limestone	47	14.2	6,539
Etowah	48	13.4	13,809
Covington	49	13.1	4,835
Fayette	50	12.7	2,396
Lamar	51	12.0	1,975
Chilton	52	11.9	3,633
Shelby	53	10.5	6,947
St. Clair	54	10.0	4,128
Blount	55	10.6	598
Morgan	56	9.8	8,816
Lauderdale	57	9.7	7,845
Cherokee	58	8.3	1,550
Walker	59	7.0	4,839
Cleburne	60	5.1	647
Franklin	61	5.0	1,301
Jackson	62	4.2	2,150
Marion	63	2.3	701
DeKalb	64	1.7	939
Marshall	65	1.5	1,016
Cullman	66	1.0	528
Winston	67	0.0	69

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SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of the Census. Census of Population, 1980. General Population Characteristics.

ALABAMA

42

Counties Where More Than 50% Of The Population Is Black

ALABAMA

Alabama Counties With Native American Population: 500 Persons

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census. Census of Population, 1980. General Population Characteristics

Alabama Institutionalized Populations

Mental Hospitals	2,560
Mental Retardation Facilities	1,398
Youth Services Facilities	574
Alabama Prison System	10,024
Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind	681
Homes for the Aged	18,702

Ranking of Counties by Percent of Persons 65 and Over

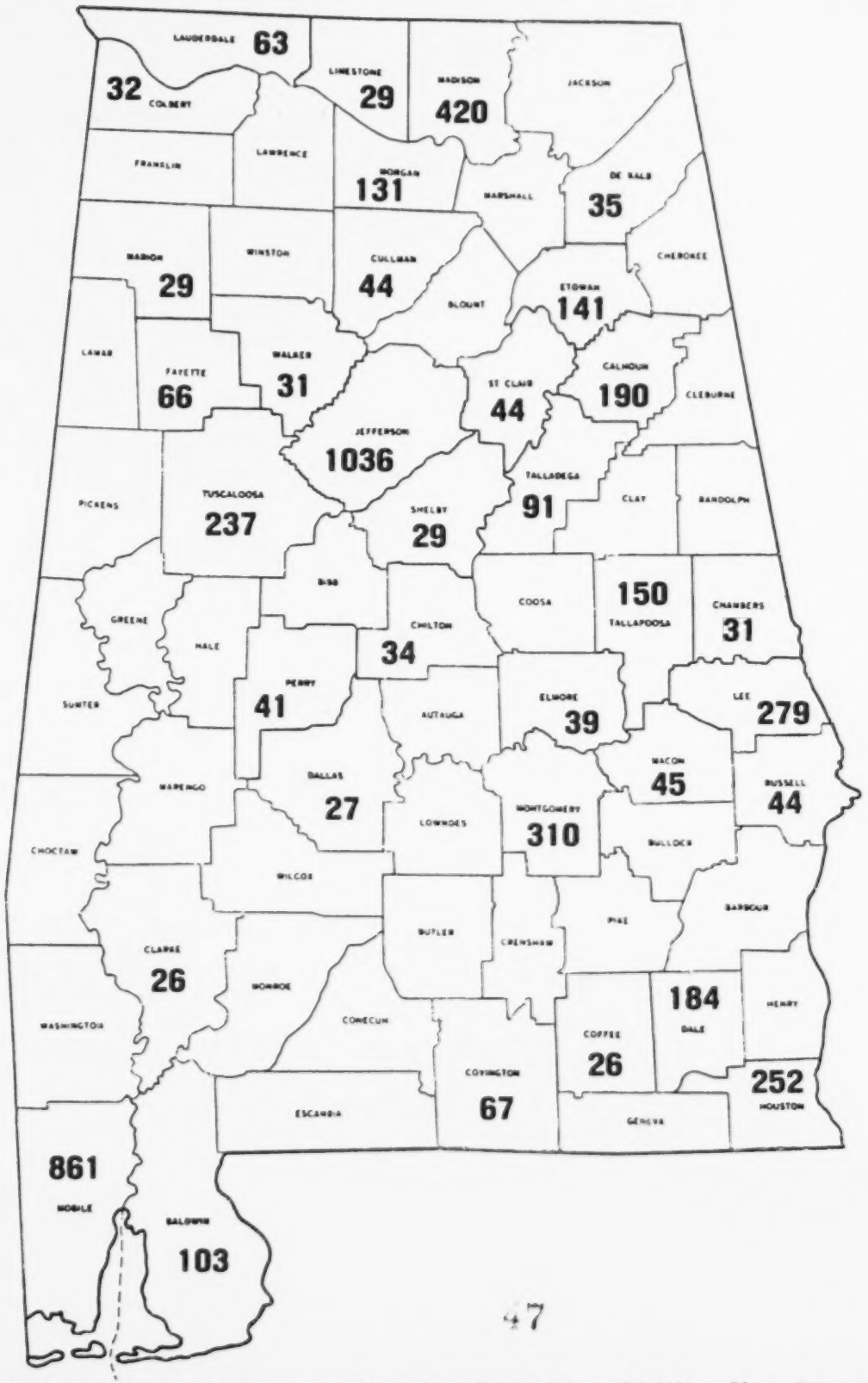
County	Ranking	Percent	Number
Crenshaw	1	16.7	2,358
Covington	2	16.2	5,985
Greene	3	16.2	1,790
Bullock	4	15.9	1,681
Conecuh	5	15.9	2,521
Butler	6	15.8	3,432
Hale	7	15.5	2,418
Clay	8	15.2	2,078
Perry	9	15.2	2,285
Randolph	10	15.1	3,029
Chambers	11	14.6	5,712
Geneva	12	14.6	3,530
Lamar	13	14.6	2,406
Fayette	14	14.5	2,722
Wilcox	15	14.5	2,145
Pickens	16	14.4	3,083
Sumter	17	14.4	2,437
Henry	18	14.3	2,194
Pike	19	14.0	3,922
Marengo	20	13.8	3,454
Tallapoosa	21	13.8	5,355
Coosa	22	13.7	1,560
Franklin	23	13.7	3,885
Marion	24	13.6	4,071
Barbour	25	13.5	3,332
Macon	26	13.5	3,635
DeKalb	27	13.4	7,199
Bibb	28	13.1	2,063
Chilton	29	13.0	3,974
Monroe	30	13.0	2,950
Clarke	31	12.9	3,555
Etowah	32	12.7	13,104
Cleburne	33	12.6	1,593
Cullman	34	12.6	7,780
Walker	35	12.6	8,646
Baldwin	36	12.5	9,849
Cherokee	37	12.5	2,338
Choctaw	38	12.5	2,111
Dallas	39	12.4	6,679
Escambia	40	12.1	4,660
Jefferson	41	12.1	81,072
Marshall	42	12.1	7,909
Blount	43	11.8	4,317
Lowndes	44	11.6	1,537
Winston	45	11.5	2,528
Coffee	46	11.4	4,379
Elmore	47	11.3	4,939
Colbert	48	11.2	6,113
Talladega	49	11.0	8,126
Lauderdale	50	10.9	8,775
Lawrence	51	10.9	3,302
Washington	52	10.8	1,820
Limestone	53	10.7	4,905
Russell	54	10.6	5,014
Houston	55	10.3	7,685
Jackson	56	10.1	5,187
Montgomery	57	10.1	19,848
St. Clair	58	10.1	4,176
Morgan	59	10.0	9,024
Calhoun	60	9.7	11,609
Tuscaloosa	61	9.7	13,323
Mobile	62	9.6	35,170
Autauga	63	8.8	2,824
Shelby	64	8.0	5,289
Dale	65	7.9	3,757
Lee	66	7.4	5,634
Madison	67	7.2	14,232

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of the Census. Census of Population, 1980. General Population Characteristics.

ALABAMA

Counties With More Than 15% Of The Population Over Age 65

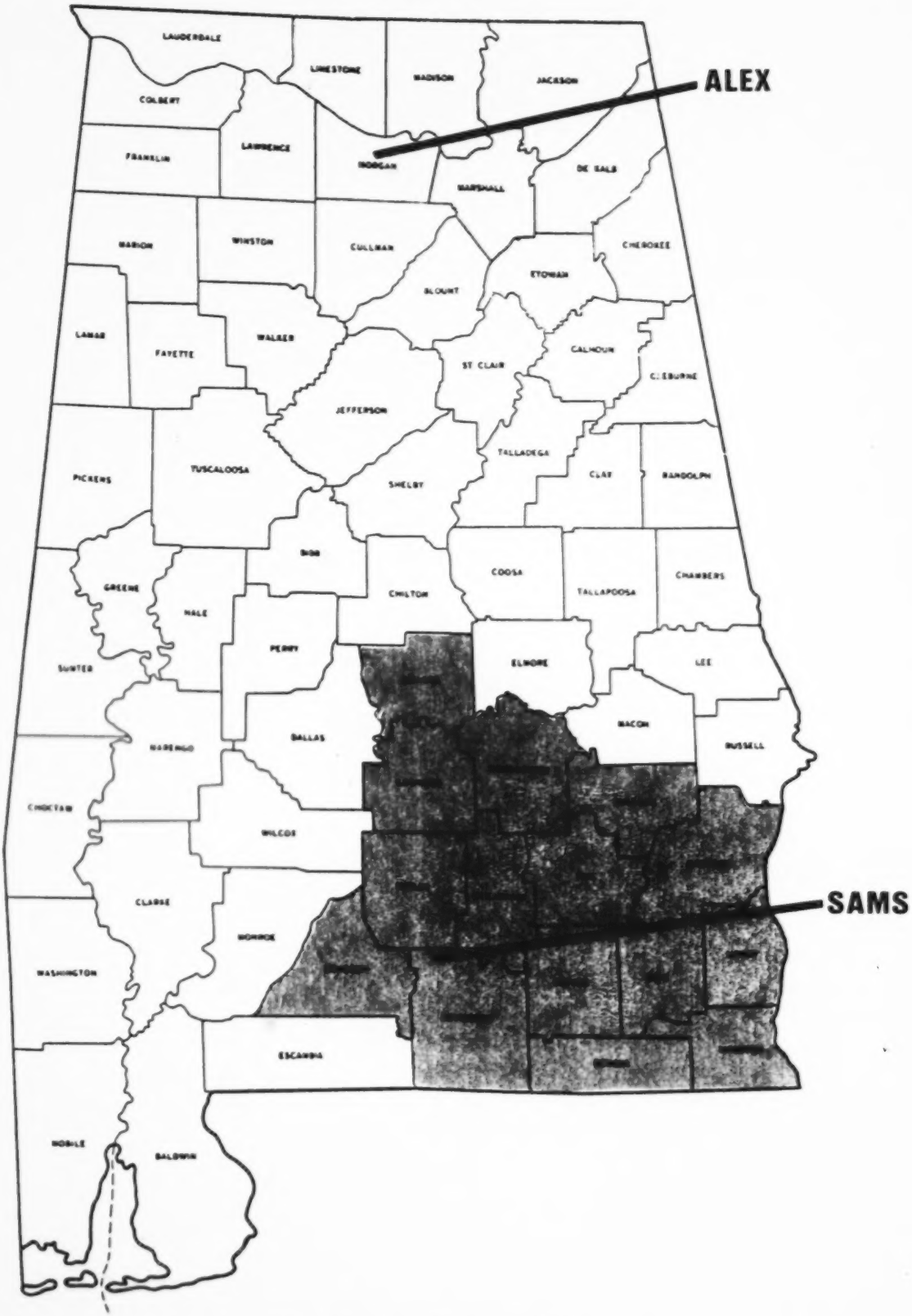
ALABAMA



Areas With Persons of Limited English Speaking Ability: Number of Persons

Source: U.S Bureau of the Census. Census of Population, 1980. General Economic and Social Characteristics

ALABAMA


ALEX
SAMS
LAUDERDALE
LIMESTONE
MADISON
JACKSON
COLBERT
LAWRENCE
FRANKLIN
MORGAN
MARSHALL
DE KALB
MARION
WINSTON
CULLMAN
CHEROKEE
ETOWAH
BLOUNT
LAMAR
FAYETTE
WALKER
ST CLAIR
CALHOUN
CLEBURNE
JEFFERSON
TALLADEGA
PICKENS
TUSCALOOSA
SHELBY
CLAY
RANDOLPH
BIBB
GREENE
HALE
CHILTON
COOSA
TALLAPOOSA
CHAMBERS
PERRY
SUMTER
ELMORE
LEE
MACON
RUSSELL
MARENGO
DALLAS
CHOCTAW
WILCOX
CLARKE
MONROE
WASHINGTON
ESCAMBIA
MOBILE
BALDWIN